



**P.O. Box 250
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www.wcc.cfsites.org

“Neighbors Helping
Neighbors”

Neil Sherring, President
Suzanne Becker, Vice President
Leigh Wasserman, Treasurer
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Arena-DeRosa, Lina
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Dottie Powers, WTH
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Lina Arena-DeRosa, COA
Sergeant Paul Sicard, WPD

*Past President



December 1, 2015

Dear Westwood Neighbors,

We write to ask you to support Westwood Community Chest (“WCC”), a volunteer 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that serves our neighbors in need by providing temporary financial assistance. The WCC is about “Neighbors Helping Neighbors.” For those who need financial help to meet basic needs such as medical bills, housing payments, and utility payments, our goal is to be there to provide that financial assistance while being sensitive to the privacy of our applicants. Over the years, WCC has provided meaningful help to families throughout Westwood – a few examples include providing heat for families during the middle of a cold winter, eye glasses to help a student in school, rent to a landlord and funeral expenses for the loss of a family member. We also provide summer campership grants to school-aged children. WCC funds are used to pay an approved applicant’s expenses directly, whether to a utility company, medical provider, camp, or other such expense. To show our applicants that we will respect their privacy, we require all of our board members to sign confidentiality agreements pledging to hold all sensitive information in the strictest of confidence.

In the past fiscal year, WCC awarded over \$66,700.00 in aid. Excluding 3rd party costs of last year’s appeal, our administrative expenses were so low last year that approximately 96% of what WCC spent was for the direct benefit of our applicants.

How do we help? Every week, WCC helps families and individuals who apply, including:

- Families where a sudden debilitating or terminal illness has caused medical bills to pile up and jobs to be put on hold.
- Families unable to pay their oil bill so they can fill the empty oil tank before the cold weather arrives.
- Seniors living alone on a fixed income struggling to make a housing payment so they can stay in the home and the community they love.
- Families that are dealing with prolonged unemployment.
- Single parents struggling to work multiple jobs to support their family and wanting to make sure their children have a safe place to go in the summer.

Your support affirms our belief that our mission is worthwhile. Without your ongoing generosity, however, we will be limited in our ability to provide any help. In Westwood, we often do not realize just how many residents struggle financially. WCC works closely with our liaisons from town organizations who help us identify families at risk and connect them with resources to address their critical needs.

We will be grateful if you would make a tax-deductible donation to WCC today and help the people in need right here in our town. We would like to give thanks to our many supporters and donors that have contributed to our cause in the past, and we look forward to earning your continued support in the future.

Sincerely,

Westwood Community Chest